



WORK SESSION MINUTES

Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization
Work Session
Thursday, January 21, 2016
3:30 PM

City of Sierra Vista
City Hall
City Manager's Conference Room
1011 North Coronado Drive
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

Web: www.SVMPO.org
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SVMPO Board of Directors

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|---------------------|---|
| Chair | Rick Mueller, Mayor, City of Sierra Vista |
| Vice-Chair - absent | Richard Searle, Supervisor, Cochise County |
| Member - absent | Bob Blanchard, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Sierra Vista |
| Member | Hank Huisking, Councilmember, City of Sierra Vista |
| Member | Rod Lane, District Engineer, Arizona Department of Transportation |

Staff:

SVMPO Administrator Dan Coxworth, AICP

Ann English, Supervisor, Cochise County
C.T. Revere, ADOT
Bruce Piepho, Citizen
Patsy Molinari, Citizen
Derek Jordan, SV Herald

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mueller called the work session to order at 3:29 p.m. MPO Administrator Coxworth conducted the roll call.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

- MPO Administrator Coxworth gave an update on the SEAGO Technical Advisory meeting recently held, where they discussed the hiring of consultants to help develop and perform their Regional Highway Safety Program. At this time, there are no funds required from the SVMPO for the purpose of this project but their input is needed to identify strategies to improve the safety of roadways and to rank proposals.
- Origin/Destination Study Update – A Request for Quotations will go out for a second time this week after non were received when it went out originally in November and will be due on February 8, 2016.

- Health Impact Assessment – Mr. Coxworth announced there will be a presentation on January 28th in Council Chambers regarding the potential positive health impacts of connections made between pedestrian and bicycle pathways.
- The Budget and Work Program process for the 2016/2017 fiscal has been started.

WORK SESSION

4. Sierra Vista MPO Long Range Transportation Plan

Dan Coxworth

SUMMARY: For the past year and a half the Sierra Vista MPO has been developing the MPO's first Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP is a requirement of the MPO and the Federal Highway Administration has set a deadline of March 2016 to develop and approve a LRTP. The LRTP is a fiscally constrained plan identifying needs of the transportation system and funding sources to meet those needs. The Draft Plan can be found on the MPO's web page: <http://www.svmipo.org/rtp2040/>

Mr. Coxworth explained that he has gone through the entire document with the Chair and reviewed all public comments. The plan was developed in-house utilizing City and County planners and engineers chapter by chapter in TAC meetings for last year and half. This was possible because many of the necessary planning studies have been done in this area recently. The LRTP outlines what the needs of the area are in terms of transportation and is used as a guide on how to allocate monies following the ADOT model. As the plan was drafted, each chapter has been made available on the MPO webpage.

Mr. Coxworth explained the first public outreach effort occurred in January with 25 members in attendance. There were three tables that outline details on three specific areas: Transit, Pedestrian, and Roads. The final Chapter outlines available funding and a needs list from both the City and the County. Appendix A will be the Public Participation Plan. Appendix B will be a comprehensive sidewalk plan including ADA ramps and sidewalk gaps.

Chair Mueller suggested finding out if better estimates were available than using census data.

Mr. Coxworth stated that the second public outreach has not yet been scheduled the MPO could advertise further public comment. It is set for approval by the Board on March 17th, 2016. The Board will have an opportunity to go through comments. He explained that the LRTP will be a 5-year guide for the MPO and will act as a good planning tool.

In response to Member Huisking, Mr. Coxworth explained that projects are prioritized from the City's Infrastructure Improvement Plan and the County's Plan developed by staff. The regional policy recommendations will serve as a guide, but the MPO could deviate based on what needs that arise.

Member Huisking asked how much flexibility there was in terms of priority. Mr. Coxworth explained that priorities could change as needed but that projects usually need to be completed within 10 years.

Chair Mueller suggested that the Board hold an additional work session to prioritize the projects and to help identify which projects are funded by which organizations and partnerships.

Ms. English commented that there was a lot of mystiques about what projects are possible, stressing the need for openness by explaining why and how projects are prioritized.

Member Lane suggested that a TIP committee be formed to make sure that professionals can get together to help prioritize the projects.

Mr. Coxworth stated the plan includes projects from the City, County and ADOT, reflects everything that is happening in the community, and outlines what could happen in any given period of time. The LRTP will be updated every five years.

Ms. English suggested that clarification should be added to explain why a project may or may not happen because of the funding source. Chair Mueller added it could be through an explanatory paragraph in the table.

In response to Chair Mueller's suggestion, Mr. Coxworth explained that the TIP is not usually added as an appendix because it is a standalone document that is updated every year not usually included since updates every year.

Member Huisking suggested that the projects be outlined in more detail as a 5-10 year bird's eyes list.

Ms. English suggested presenting it as a rolling project list with the limitations lined out. Member Lane added it should be presented as a tool and not a binding document.

5. DISCUSSION: Future Agenda Items

SVMPO Board

- *Long Range Transportation Plan Updates - March 17, 2016*

6. UPCOMING SCHEDULED MEETINGS

- SVMPO TAC: February TBD, Public Works
- SVMPO Board: March 17, 3:30 p.m., City Hall

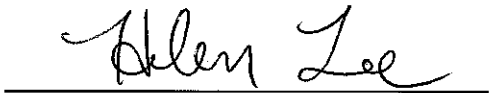
7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mueller adjourned the work session at 4:36 p.m.



Chair Rick Mueller

Minutes prepared by:



*Helen Lee, Administrative Secretary
City of Sierra Vista*

I agree completely with Patricia Molinari on the need for the SVMPO LRTP 2040 to address additions to Chapter 3. Specifically alternative corridors from Moson Road to Buffalo Soldier and SR92 are required especially for safety and protection of property. Vehicle movement of emergency services must be planned for events of routes blocked. Some possible solutions recommended are:

1. Canada to Bevers to SR92
2. Garza from Moson Rd to SR92
3. Garden Creek Trail from Moson Rd to SR92
4. Valley Drive extension to Golden Acres round-a-bout circle
5. Snyder Blvd to Moson Rd through Horse Thief Draw
6. Greenbriar from SR92 to Moson Rd connecting to Chief Joseph

You must not overlook safety issues in planning Long Range Transportation. In addition there are many dead end streets and roads within Sierra Vista and the county. To name a few there are:

- A dead end at E. Busby Drive not connected to Corral Rd.
- Also El Camino Real South bound dead ends instead of connecting to Avenida Cochise.
- Incomplete planning leaves Camino Rancho dead ended route South with only an alternative to connect to the East with El Camino Real.

The dead end streets may be a safety hazard for emergency vehicles in the event of other access being blocked. Also traffic is forced to take other routes where there is a need to have a reduction.

An example; Traffic can not go South on El Camino Real to the mall. Instead traffic is forced to SR92 which is already congested.

Bruce M Piepho

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